

## BULLIS CHARTER SCHOOL NEWS

### OPEN ENROLLMENT IS UNDERWAY FOR 2005-06

Open enrollment for the 2005-06 school year at Bullis Charter School is now underway. Please call the school office (650-947-4939) or go to [www.bullischarterschool.com](http://www.bullischarterschool.com) to find out more about open house events and tours.

Open enrollment ends on January 4, 2005. Students who register during open enrollment will have priority if there is a waiting list for the limited number of spaces available.

**A Joyful Beginning Nurturing... Challenging...Inspiring...Empowering... Innovative...** These are just some of

the words BCS families use to describe their new school. Bullis Charter School opened in August 2004, as a public, tuition-free elementary school for grades K-6. Founded by a group of Los Altos Hills parents, the school has 170 students enrolled from Los Altos Hills, Los Altos, and surrounding areas.

### A Challenging Curriculum and Individualized Learning Plans

Each student now has an individualized learning plan in place that is tailored to his unique needs and abilities. Much of the learning is done in multi-disciplinary, group projects for deeper understanding. The curriculum fosters academic excellence and accountability exceeding state standards.

Beyond the fundamentals, each week students have PE, Science, Art, Music, and Drama. On Fridays, they take three electives such as Newspaper, French, or Dance, designed to reinforce educational goals. All teachers are credentialed and bring a passion for learning to the classroom.

There was a weeklong outdoor education trip in October, and in February the 5th and 6th graders will go to Washington DC and Williamsburg. Students have sung with the San Francisco Opera and are operating their own store. Multi-age "houses" are building friendships across grades while tackling meaningful educational projects. And from day one, character lessons have been an integral part of the curriculum.

### Beyond the School Day

Bullis Charter School teachers organize and lead all after school activities, providing yet another setting for mentoring. The 5th-6th grade play, "The Importance of Being Earnest," will take place in January.

Kids are staying after school until 4:30 for play practice, organized sports, Odyssey of the Mind, Girls on the Run, foreign languages, knitting, yoga, and hip-hop dance.

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## NEWS FROM "THE SUPPORTERS"

The Supporters of Westwind Community Barn has established an Endowment Fund to provide a permanent source of funding for the restoration and preservation of Westwind Barn.



The Endowment monies will be placed in a separate fund and will be managed professionally by our local Los Altos Community Foundation. All gifts (memorial gifts, bequests, and other planned-giving vehicles) to the Supporters Endowment will be set aside, and no more than 5% will be drawn down annually. The Endowment will assure a future for the Supporters' organization and is a vital part of assuring the permanence of Westwind in the community.

A long-time local supporter has already provided a bequest of \$100,000 to kick off the Endowment Fund, but smaller gifts are also being solicited from those who value Westwind as a special place that adds to the quality of life in Los Altos Hills.

A one-time gift of \$2,000 donated to the Endowment Fund can return \$100 annually in perpetuity to the Supporters. A one-time gift of \$20,000 can return \$1,000 annually in perpetuity. Over time these annual payouts, important to the ongoing fund-raising efforts of the Supporters, will constitute only a portion of the fund's total return and will build up the Endowment over time.

Friends and supporters of Westwind Community Barn are invited to assist this wonderful new organization in our community, which in its first year has successfully raised over \$100,000 — \$20,000 of which has been designated by the Supporters Board this year for the replacement of the Barn's upper and lower main doors.

Individuals who would be interested in contributing to the Supporters organization by serving on the Board, its Advisory Committee, or in other capacities are encouraged to contact **Board President, Elaine Nelson** at (650) 941-9503. Those with an interest in making a donation to the newly established Endowment Fund should contact **Nancy Couperus** at (650) 941-4808.

## Town Newsletter - Statement of Purpose

To communicate current issues, services, and activities in Los Altos Hills to the residents of the Town and to facilitate, encourage and improve interaction between the residents and Town government. The 2005 Newsletter will be published quarterly in the months of March, June, September, and December. Deadline for the next issue is January 31, 2005.

**Internet Address: [www.losaltoshills.ca.gov](http://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov)**

### About Our Publication

The Town Newsletter is published with assistance from our Town Volunteer Committees.

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